

The Messenger

 Southwood Baptist Church

Clarifying Our Values - by Pastor Joe Lightfoot

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Brian Tracy, a prolific e-communicator, wrote in his July 11 email regarding The Need to Lead, “The greatest need we have today, in every area, is for men and women to practice the values of integrity, discipline, responsibility, courage, and long time perspective, both as individuals and in their families. These are the key qualities of leadership.”

There is a question that comes to my mind - What is the foundational source of these values? Some solid biblical responses can be found in 1 Cor. 10:31, Col. 3:23, & Matt. 22:37-39.

Tracy goes on to say that the greatest need we have today is for men and women to practice these values. These are the key qualities of leadership.

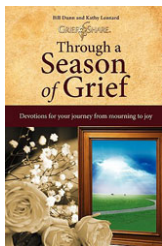
Tracy then quotes Immanuel Kant’s “Universal Maxim”. Kant

suggested that “you should live your life as though your every act were to become universal law for all people. The very best judge of truth for you is to ask, ‘Is it true for me?’” Here is where you have to stick with me. I know this sounds relativistic. It sounds that way because it is. However, there are some great points of application coming up! Hang in there.

Tracy contends that if everyone were encouraged to live in this way, our society would be much improved. I think Tracy fails to account for total depravity, but now comes the good part. Tracy offers four questions “to stay on track;” questions to help us focus on living out our values. For the Christian community, a modi-

fied version of these questions can be helpful for us in continuing the journey on which God has placed us. The four questions are: 1 ~ From a spiritual perspective, what kind of community, workplace, school, would my community, etc. be if everyone in it was just like me? 2 ~ Spiritually speaking, what kind of family would my family be if everyone in it was just like me? 3 ~ What kind of church would this be if everyone in it was just like me? 4 ~ What kind of Sunday School/small group would this be if everyone in it were just like me?

Are the values you profess being lived out in the arenas of life in which you live?



GRIEF SHARE is designed to be a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life’s most difficult experiences. You don’t have to go through the process alone. Grief Share will be held on **Thursday** evenings beginning on **Sept. 29th** at 7:00 PM in the Southwood Baptist Church library. You can register with Dottie at 856-599-0949. Registration fee is \$20.

The Art of Marriage Conference - October 7 & 8 @ Southwood

Cost: \$35/couple

Times: Friday night, Oct. 7th,

7-9:30 PM

Saturday, Oct. 8th, 9-4

For more than three decades, FamilyLife has been helping couples understand God’s design for relationships. Now, in this fresh new video guided event, couples have the opportunity to look at their relationship in a whole new way. Weaving instruction from respected pastors and Bible teachers together with compelling stories, humorous vignettes, man-on-the-street interviews and more, The Art

of Marriage will help couples apply what the Bible teaches about marriage in a powerful way. It’s practical, funny and straight to the heart. For more information or to register, visit: TheArtofMarriage.com or call Southwood at 856-848-8887



A BLAST FROM



VBS Pandamania - by Sherry Connelly

For the last couple of years, I have been involved with VBS behind the scenes. Literally, I have been doing the decorating. This year was no different, however I was able to volunteer all week as a Leader. This was such a fantastic time for me. We think we are blessing all the families that attend our VBS and do not know our Savior, but in reality, it is OUR blessing. To see the innocence of these children and to be able to tell them all about God's love is INCREDIBLE! I had the 4-year old children and the questions were amazing. You think these little

ones don't pay attention or think they are too little to understand the depth of God's love. Well let me tell you, they DO pay attention and DO absorb everything that happens during VBS. I think we forget how important VBS is to these families. We may never see them in our church, but the things they learn and go home and teach their families is indescribable. Whether you donated one box of snack or were there every day, Southwood Baptist Church definitely planted A LOT of seeds this summer!



Upcoming Youth Events:
October 14, 7 PM - Movie Night **October 28-30 - Teen Haven Weekend**
November 13 - 10th Presbyterian Community Dinner (Feed the Homeless)
November 19 - Service project and BBQ

Adult Sunday School - Fall classes



"Lasting Legacy - Making a Difference with My Life" - You are where you are today because somebody cared about you and left a "Lasting Legacy" in your life. Join this Sunday School class and discover ways to build friendships, get connected in community and learn

ways to introduce Jesus to others. God wants you to leave that same kind of legacy in other people's lives who desperately need what you have.

"In Pursuit of Jesus: Stepping Off the Beaten Path" - Who do you say that Jesus is?" Join in this class and acquire new abilities to

articulate why you follow Jesus. You will finish this powerful pursuit with the ability to articulate why you follow Jesus—and a deeper desire to know him in more intimate ways.